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In the infective pathology of Yugoslavia, the most important and virulent mass epidemic disease is still typhus fever. Everything possible must be done to free our country from the virulent epidemic nidi of typhus fever.

Endemic and epidemic infectious diseases, which are extremely important in our infective pathology, include the so-called intestinal infectious diseases -- typhoid, paratyphoid, and bacillary dysentery. Their endemicity and periodical epidemics are explained by the particular living conditions, rooted prejudices, antihygienic habits, and inadequate hygienic education of the rural population.

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Diphtheria occupies a very prominent place on the list of endemic-epidemic infectious diseases in Yugoslavia, in both morbidity and mortality rates. Proven scientific progress promises the reduction of the morbidity rate and death from this disease, which was once so virulent, to very small proportions by systematic and persevering work.

Whooping cough is erroneously and unjustifiably regarded as a minor ailment, since often it is the actual or indirect cause of a high infantile mortality rate. However, there are no accurate statistical data, for the law requires that it be reported to the health authorities only in the case of large-scale incidence or severe epidemics. Combating this disease by modern methods, including systematic prophylactic vaccination, offers possibilities for a perceptible reduction in morbidity and lethality.

Although epidemic parotitis, infectious meningitis, and acute infantile paralysis are far below other endemic-epidemic diseases in Yugoslavia, as regards number of incidences and absolute figures for fatal cases, they are still very important. Their suppression requires systematic execution of correct protective measures and extensive use of all modern scientific methods. Poliomyelitis is especially being considered by this Congress in the light of its great practical significance for our country.

Infectious diseases of the eruptive group, such as scarlatina and measles have a very high morbidity rate.

Anthrax and some other infectious diseases transmitted to human beings from domestic and some wild animals are widespread. They include: Malta fever, Bang's disease, rabies, Weil's disease and leptospirosis.

Tetanus and erysipelas are being fought with successful modern protective measures.

The thorough study of infectious diseases is an important and complex problem; and the successful suppression of these diseases is complicated. It requires, in addition to legislation framed in accordance with modern scientific trends, a comprehensive and acceptable plan, highly-qualified specialist leadership, suitable research facilities, adequate cadres of assistant personnel, great activity in the field of hygiene education, and the economic prosperity of the masses.

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